

VT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Keeping Vehicles on the Road & Minimizing the Consequences of Leaving the Road

The Problem

- 40 percent of VT major crashes in 2003 were the result of vehicles leaving the roadway.
- VT's winding rural roads can be difficult to navigate, and the roadside is often unforgiving.

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The Data

- 42% of this type of crash occur on 50 mph, two-lane rural roads
- 43% in low light or dark conditions
- 32% of run-off-road crashes caused by speed
- 30% of vehicles in run-off-road crashes struck trees

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Strategies

- Pilot program to implement low cost safety improvements on local road systems
- Provide improved delineation in low visibility conditions
- Provide edgeline and/or centerline rumble stripes
- Improved advanced warning & delineation of unexpected horizontal curves
- Improve roadside geometry by eliminating shoulder drop-offs and providing safer sides slopes & ditches
- Improve clear zone by removing, relocating, shielding, or delineating roadside objects